Minutes

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH

ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

—:— 1951 —:—

HELD WITH

MOUNTAIN CREEK CHURCH

STANLY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 14, 15, 16, 1951

OFFICERS

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator

BROTHER G. C. MEDLIN, Clerk

PRESTON L. HELMS, Assistant Clerk

PROCEEDINGS

The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association convened in annual session with Mountain Creek Church, Stanly County, North Carolina, Friday, September 14th, 1951 and continued through Saturday and Sunday following.

Brethren, sisters, and friends congregated at the stand about 10:30 a. m. and engaged in songs of praise, followed by prayer by Elder H. P. Copeland, Rt. 1, Arab, Ala., and the introductory sermon was preached by Elder C. M. Mills, Text: John 7:17.

Following the introductory sermon about and hour was taken for refreshments and meeting with old and new acquaintants, after which the Association met in the house and engaged in songs of praise followed with prayer by Elder Raymond E. Cagle of Rt. 1, Boswell, Ga.

Mountain Creek Church, with Messengers and Brethren composing the Association, proceeded to business as follows:

Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Mountain Creek Church served as Moderator, and Brother G. C. Medlin, Clerk of Mountain Creek Church served as Clerk, and called for the services of Preston L. Helms as assistant clerk.

1. Invited all orderly Baptists who are in good standing in their home churches to seats with us;

2. Called for letters from the sister churches composing the Association, which were handed in, read and their status noted:

Mountain Creek: Represented by full membership.
Lawyer's Springs: Brethren Robert Horne, Preston Hasty, Cletus Marsh, and Walter Hasty.

Union: Brethren W. R. Coley, Grady Braswell, T. B. Polk and V. H. Solomon.

Bethel: Brethren R. O. Lewis, Thomas Bell, Carlos Benton and O. J. Bell.

High Point: Brethren R. A. Strickland, Sr., Gilmer Mitchell, Andrew King, and Fair Willard.

Mills Chapel: Brethren W. M. Nance, F. H. Simpson, L. H. Hargett, and J. V. Haley.

Meadow Creek: Brethren R. M. Hatley, N. D. Hathcock, Adam Almond and Claud Hathcock.

Watson: Brethren Preston L. Helms, Winfred Simpson, E. V. Baucom and H. N. Curlee.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren S. L. Arrington, J. R. Richardson, C. E. Russell and G. L. Auman.

High Hill: Brethren Earl Presley, Carl Edwards, M. C. Mills, and C. R. Hill.

Liberty Hill: Brethren C. R. Honeycutt, C. C. Furr, Hobart Medlin and J. C. Hatley.

Corinth: Brethren Ed Peterson, Walter Peterson, and Elder A. N. Green.

Pleasant Grove: Brethren J. M. Williams, A. E. Broome, Grady Hargett and Carl Griffin.

Union Grove: Brethren F. L. Baucom, Alonzo Griffin, Jeff Taylor and John Barbee.

3. Called for petitionary letters. None presented.

4. The moderator, Elder C. M. Mills was authorized to appoint committees on preaching and finance:

Committee on preaching: Elder V. V. Willard, and Brethren C. N. Taylor, W. L. Solomon, Earl Presley, Cletus Marsh and Elzie Auman.

Committee on finance: Brethren A. E. Broome, C. C. Willard, Ellis Lambert, Preston L. Helms, and L. E. Outen.

5. Called on Presbyteries to report.

At the request of Meadow Creek Church a presbytery was formed November 4, 1950, for the purpose of ordaining Brother N. D. Hathcock to the office of deacon.

The presbytery consisted of Elders C. M. Mills, D. B. Willard, Homer Poplin and E. H. Simpson and Deacons C. W. Griffin, F. L. Baucom, D. N. Hathcock, J. W. Harwood, A. E. Broome, W. L. Solomon, R. M. Hatley and Lloyd Outen.

By request of Corinth Church a presbytery was formed March 18, 1951 and ordained Brother Walter Peterson to the office of deacon.

The presbytery consisted of the following: Elders D. B. Willard, E. H. Simpson and A. N. Green and Deacons L. E. Outen, Leonard Baucom, W. R. Coley and Brady Polk.

6. Invited visitors from corresponding associations to seats with us:

Silver Creek: Elder L. L. Huffman and Henry C. McMillan.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders J. T. Lewis, J. S. Stephenson and J. S. Collins; Brethren Seba Clifton and wife, Archie Hatcher and wife, Milton Byrd and Donnie Stancil and others.

Little River of Georgia: Elders Raymond E. Cagle, W. H. Robbins, W. S. Kelly, and M. M. Morton; Sister M. M. Morton and Brethren Sherman Kell, Raymond Kell.

South Arkansas: Minutes and Sister Mollie Kelly.

Mt. Zion: Elders W. O. Hunt, H. P. Copeland and Brethren Paul Copeland and Olin Smith.

Tennessee-Nolichucky: Brother Andrew Gregory and Sister Margie Gregory.

Sequachie-Valley and Collins River: No intelligence.

The Original Powells Valley Association of Kentucky and Tennessee presented a letter asking formal correspondence with The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association which was unanimously granted. The letter was borne by the following: Elder A. A. Miracle and Brother Joe Bowling.

7. Invited visiting brethren and sisters from sister associations whom we do not carry formal correspondence to seats with us:

Ray's Fork Church of Scott County, Ky.: Elder C. L. Ratcliff and wife Mattie J. Ratcliff and son, Kenneth Ratcliff.

Mt. Zion Church, Blanchester, Ohio: Sister Polly Williams and Elder Rice Bolender and wife.

Mud Creek of Ala.: Sister Kathrean Thomas.

Flint River of Ala.: Sister J. D. Smith.

Wetumpka of Ala.: Sister Josie Duckett.

Big Sandy Association: Elder T. L. Webb, Jr.

Miss. River of West Tenn.: Elder Harvey Smith.

Friendship of Ga.: Elder Earl Myer.

Marietta Association of Ga.: Elder Roy Mitchell.

Original Towaliga Association of Ga.: Elder E. D. Spiers.

8. Appointed Messengers to visit corresponding associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elders V. V. Willard, D. B. Willard and Brethren C. J. Mullis and Roy Hardy.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders V. V. Willard, D. B. Willard, Homer Poplin and E. H. Simpson.

Little River of Georgia: Elders V. V. Willard, E. H. Simpson and Brethren Ellis Honeycutt, C. J. Mullis and Roy Hardy.

South Arkansas: Minutes and represent if possible.

Mt. Zion: Elders C. M. Mills, Homer Poplin and Brethren Curby Horne, C. J. Mills, T. B. Curlee and Roy Hardy.

Tennessee-Nolichucky: Elders E. H. Simpson, C. M. Mills and Brother T. L. Medlin.

Sequachie-Valley and Collins River: Elder V. V. Willard and Curby Horne.

Powells Valley: Elder C. M. Mills and Brethren Fred Lee Honeycutt and Ellis Honeycutt.

9. By motion agreed to continue correspondence with all churches and associations whom we are in correspondence with.

10. On motion Elder V. V. Willard was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the minutes of this association.

11. It was unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday, September 15th, 9:15 a. m. Benediction by Elder T. L. Webb, of Tennessee.

SATURDAY, A. M.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met in the house Saturday at 9:15 a. m. After singing songs of praise and prayer by Brother Paul Copeland, continued with business as follows:

12. Called on finance committee to report. Report as follows:

Handed in by churches	$633.00
Handed in by congregation	$120.50
Total	$753.50

1. By motion unanimously agreed to distribute minutes to corresponding associations as usual.

14. Called for corresponding letter which was read and adopted.

15. On motion it was unanimously agreed that we hold the 1952 session of the Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association with Lawyer's Springs Church, Anson county, North Carolina, beginning Friday before the Third Sunday in September and continue through Saturday and Sunday following, and the pastor of Lawyer's Springs church preach the introductory sermon.

16. On motion unanimously agreed that we have 1000 copies of this minute printed and distributed to churches and associations as usual and that Preston L. Helms superintend printing and distribution of same and that he be allowed $75.00 for printing, mailing and services.

17. By motion unanimously agreed to distribute all funds above that allowed for printing, mailing and services, to ministers as the Finance Committee may deem proper.

18. By unanimous agreement the Association returns thanks to God for His mercy and to the brethren, sisters and friends of Mountain Creek Church and vicinity for their kind hospitality and entertainment afforded during this session of the Association.

19. Agreed to adjourn to time and place above mentioned.

Benediction by Elder W. O. Hunt, of Holly Pond, Ala.

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator
3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.

BROTHER G. C. MEDLIN, Clerk
1827 Charlotte Road, Albemarle, N. C.

PRESTON L. HELMS, Assistant Clerk
Rt. 3, Marshville, N. C.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Handed in by churches	$633.00
Handed in by congregation	$120.50
Total	$753.50

Expenditures

For printing and clerk's service	$ 75.00
Distributed to ministers	$678.50
Total	$753.50

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.

Elder C. M. Mills. Text: John 7:17.

FRIDAY P. M.

Elder W. H. Robbins. Text: John 17: 1-5.
Elder Earl Myers. Text: John 18: 36.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder W. S. Kelley. Text: John 1:1-5.
Elder W. O. Hunt. Text: 2 Cor. 5:19-21.

SATURDAY A. M.

Elder A. A. Miracle. Text: Matt. 2:16.
Elder C.L. Ratcliff. Text: Malachi 3:6.
Elder W. O. Hunt. No special text.

SATURDAY P. M.

Elder T. L. Webb, Jr. Text: 1 Cor. 1:18-25.
Elder Harvey Smith. Text: Matt. 11:25.
Elder J. S. Stephenson. Text: Heb. 12:1-2.

SATURDAY NIGHT, LIBERTY HILL

Elder C. L. Ratcliff. Text: John 10:25-29.
Elder R. E. Cagle. Text: John 15:16.

At Pleasant Grove

Elder T. L. Webb, Jr. Text: Samuel's Calling.
Elder Harvey Smith, Text: Heb. 11:1.

At Pleasant Hill

Elder H. P. Copeland. Failed to get text.
Elder W. O. Hunt. Failed to get text.

SUNDAY A. M.

Elder E. D. Spier. Text: John 3:17-21.
Elder M. M. Morton. Text: Isaiah 11:4-7.
Elder H. P. Copeland. Text: Failed to get text.

SUNDAY P M

Elder Roy Mitchell. Text: Matt. 11:25.
Elder J. T. Lewis. Text: Ephesians 2:15.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C.
Elder V. V. Willard, Route 2, High Point, N. C.
Elder D. B. Willard, Route 6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder E. H. Simpson, Route 4, Concord, N. C.
Elder H. L. Poplin, Route 2, Box 56, Albemarle, N. C.
Elder A. N. Green, Route 3, Kings Mountain, N. C.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder A. A. Miracle, 1306 Beaumont Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.
Elder J. T. Lewis, Coats, N. C.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Benson, N. C.
Elder J. S. Collins, R1, Angier, N. C.
Elder L. L. Huffman, Route 4, Asheville, N. C.
Elder Henry C. McMillon, Lenoir, N. C.
Elder Raymond E. Cagle, Route 1, Boswell, Ga.
Elder W. H. Robbins, Route 1, Woodstock, Ga.
Elder W. S. Kelly, Aplharetta, Ga.
Elder M. M. Morton, Route 2, Smyrna, Ga.
Elder W. O. Hunt, R2 Holly Pond, Ala.
Elder H. P. Copeland, Route 1, Arab, Ala.
Elder C. L. Ratcliff, 705 Philadelphia St., Covington, Ky.
Elder T. L. Webb, Jr., Milan, Tenn.
Elder Harvey Smith.
Elder E. D. Spier, Conley, Ga.
Elder Roy Mitchell, 680 Ervin Ave., S. W., Atlanta, Ga.
Elder Earl Myer.
Elder Rice Bolender, Route 2, Batavia, Ohio.

LICENTIATES

Andrew Gregory, Route 1, Townsend, Tenn.
Paul Copeland, Route 1, Arab, Ala.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the Ministers and Messengers composing The Original Bear Creek Association:

We can truly say with the Psalmist David, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," and, also, with the Prophet Amos: "Can two walk together except they be agreed." We are doubly sure this vast host of ministers and brethren from the many churches and associations could not lovingly embrace each other in love and fellowship were we not laboring to build upon the same foundation, and that is Christ and the Apostles, Jesus Christ being the Chief Corner Stone We desire no carnal conflict with those who may oppose us, but rather, we pray to the Giver of every good and perfect gift for His protecting care and guidance that we may serve Him with reverence and Godly fear. As we give a short brief of the principles upon which we stand, we feel that we are speaking the principles of our correspondence and visitors. We believe that God's children will live with Him in Heaven solely by what Jesus accomplished on the cross, and in all of our search of the scriptures, we find there is just one reason given as to why He saved His children. It is for His great love wherewith He loved them. This work is not kept a secret, but by His Holy Spirit He reveals His love to His children, hence they feel the need of His love and guidance. Then being risen with Him in love, His children are commanded to enter through baptism into the kingdom that Jesus set up while here on earth, and by so doing, their comforts are many, their spiritual knowledge is increased and they are neither barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May peace reign in our beloved Zion in the coming year. To our visitors we truly say that our hearts have been warmed and our joys increased by your presence. May God be with us until we meet again.

Your Unworthy Brother in Christ,
V. V. WILLARD.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and The Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testament contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the Supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing as taught by our Saviour in St. John 13:4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd. That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association; then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4th. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5th. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	Rec'd by Exp. & Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday Of Meeting	Contributions
Lawyer's Springs	Elder V. V. Willard, Rt. 2, High Point	Tommy Horne, Peachland, N. C.	7	0	0	1	1	1	1	80	1	$ 44.00
Union	Elder E. H. Simpson, Rt. 4, Concord, N. C.	V. H. Solomon, R2, Gastonia, N. C.	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	26	1	$ 32.00
Bethel	Elder C. M. Mills, 3130 Central Ave., Charlotte, N. C. Elder D. B. Willard, Winston-Salem, N. C.	W. J. McLamb, Shalotte, N. C.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	4	$ 20.00
High Point	Elder V. V. Willard	H. M. Willard, Winston-Salem, N. C.	5	3	0	0	0	0	2	114	4	$ 60.00
Mills Chapel	Elder C. M. Mills Elder D. B. Willard	F. L. Nance, 201 D. Avenue Salisbury, N. C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	38	3	$ 26.00
Meadow Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	R. M. Hatley, Oakboro, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	1	$ 57.00
Watson	Elder C. M. Mills	Preston L. Helms, R3, Marshville, NC	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	44	4	$ 35.00
Pleasant Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	G. L. Amman, Allreads, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	43	3	$ 43.00
High Hill	Elder V. V. Willard	M. C. Mills, Rt 2, Monroe, N. C.	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	57	1	$ 40.00
Liberty Hill	Elder C. M. Mills	Ellis Honeycutt, Oakboro, N. C.	16	0	0	0	0	0	6	88	1	$ 55.00
Corinth	Elder E. H. Simpson Elder A. N. Green, Kngs Mountain, N. C.	Marvin Styers, Kings Mountain, N. C.	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	3	$ 4.00
Pleasant Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	A. E. Broome, R2, Marshville, N. C.	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	62	2	$ 60.00
Union Grove	Elder C. M. Mills	Lloyd Outen, 1726 Chestnut St., Charlotte, N. C.	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	131	2	$115.00
Mt. Creek	Elder C. M. Mills	G. C. Medlin, 1827 Charlotte Road, Albemarle, N. C.	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	3	$ 42.00
		Donations by Friends										$120.50
		Totals	60	3	0	1	1	3	15	832		$753.50